

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A kit having components comprising

(A) a set of at least two elastomeric tapered stoppers of different diameters, each having an a circular aperture of the same uniform diameter therethrough; and

(B) a rigid conduit having an outside diameter about the same as said circular aperture, where flow therethrough through said rigid conduit is controlled by a valve, said rigid conduit having a first end that has a fitting that is attachable to a pressurized water line and a second end that is insertable into ~~the~~ either end of said circular aperture of any of said stoppers in water-sealing engagement therewith.

2. (Currently amended) A kit according to Claim 1, including a 90° elbow ~~tube having a first end into which said second~~ that comprises a rigid L-shaped tube and a flexible tube, where one end of said rigid L-shaped tube is insertable into one end of said flexible tube and the other end of said rigid conduit is insertable into the other end of said flexible tube and ~~having a second end that~~ the other end of said rigid L-shaped tube is insertable into the aperture of either end of any one of said stoppers in water-sealing engagement therewith.

3. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1 wherein said set of stoppers comprises a stopper for plugging openings about 2 1/4 inches in diameter and a subset of about 3 to about 5 stoppers for plugging openings that have diameters of about 3/4 to about 1 5/8 inches.

4. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1 wherein said set of stoppers comprises five stoppers having sizes 3, 5, 6, 8, and 11.5.
5. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1 wherein said stoppers are made from a synthetic styrene-butadiene rubber.
6. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1 wherein said aperture through said stoppers has a diameter of about $\frac{3}{8}$ to about $\frac{5}{8}$ inches.
7. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1, including a straight extension tube having a first end into which said second end of said rigid conduit is insertable and having a second end that is insertable into the aperture of any of said stoppers in water-tight engagement therewith.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1, including a clear plastic container for holding said components of said kit.
11. (Original) A kit according to Claim 1 wherein said rigid conduit is made of polyamide.
12. (Original) A method of clearing a line that carries water using a kit according to Claim 1 comprising
 - (A) inserting said second end of said rigid conduit into a stopper that can plug an

opening to said line;

(B) connecting said first end of said rigid conduit to a source of water under pressure;

(C) pressing said stopper against said opening; and

(D) opening said valve, whereby said pressurized water flows through said line.

13. (Original) A method according to Claim 12 wherein said water is under a pressure of about 35 to about 65 psi.

14. (Original) A method according to Claim 12 wherein said line is a thru-hull, drain, discharge line, or cooling line for an engine, air conditioning, refrigeration, or water generation system on a water-going vessel.

15. (Currently amended) A kit comprising

(A) a large elastomeric tapered stopper that can plug a 2 1/4 inch diameter opening, said stopper having ~~an~~ a circular aperture of uniform diameter through the center thereof;

(B) 3 to 5 small elastomeric tapered stoppers of different sizes that can plug openings that are about 3/4 to about 1 5/8 inches in diameter, each small stopper having ~~an~~ a circular aperture of uniform diameter through its center that is the same diameter as the circular aperture through the center of said large stopper; and

(C) a rigid conduit where water flow therethrough is controlled by a valve, said

conduit having a first end that has a female fitting attachable to a pressurized water line and a second end that is insertable into the circular aperture of any of said stoppers in water-sealing engagement therewith; and

(D) a rigid L-shaped tube and a flexible tube, where the second end of said rigid conduit is insertable into one end of said flexible tube, one end of said rigid L-shaped tube is insertable into the other end of said flexible tube, and the other end of said rigid L-shaped tube is insertable into either end of the circular aperture of any one of said stoppers in water-sealing engagement therewith.

16. (Original) A method of clearing a line that carries water using a kit according to Claim 15 comprising

(A) inserting said second end of said rigid conduit into a stopper that can plug an opening to said line;

(B) connecting said first end of said rigid conduit to a source of water under pressure;

(C) pressing said stopper against said opening; and

(D) opening said valve, whereby said pressurized water flows through said line.

17. (Original) A method according to Claim 16 wherein said line is a thru-hull, drain, discharge line, or cooling line for an engine, air conditioning, refrigeration, or water generation system on a water-going vessel.

18. (Currently amended) A kit comprising

(A) five elastomeric tapered stoppers having sizes 3, 5, 6, 8, and 11.5, each stopper having an aperture ~~about 1/2 inch~~ through its center, where the diameter of said aperture is a uniform 1/2 inch;

(B) a rigid conduit where flow therethrough is controlled by a ball valve, said conduit having a first end that has a threaded female fitting attachable to a threaded male fitting of a pressurized water line and a second end that has an outside diameter of about 1/2 inch and is insertable into the either end of the circular aperture of any of said stoppers in water-sealing engagement therewith;

(C) ~~an a 90° elbow-shaped tube having a first end into which said second end of said rigid conduit is insertable and having a second end that~~ that comprises a rigid L-shaped tube and a flexible tube, where one end of said rigid L-shaped tube is insertable into one end of said flexible tube and the other end of said rigid conduit is insertable into the other end of said flexible tube, and the other end of said rigid L-shaped tube is insertable into the aperture of either end of any of said stoppers in water-sealing engagement therewith;

(D) a straight extension tube having a first end into which said second end of said rigid conduit is insertable and having a second end that is insertable into the aperture of any of said stoppers in water-tight engagement therewith;

(E) a booklet containing instructions for the use of said kit; and

(F) a clear plastic container for holding said stoppers, said conduit, said elbow-

shaped tube, said extension tube, ~~and said booklet,~~ said rigid L-shaped tube; and said flexible tube.

19. (Original) A method of clearing a line that carries water using a kit according to Claim 18 comprising

(A) inserting said second end of said rigid conduit into a stopper that can plug an opening to said line;

(B) connecting said first end of said rigid conduit to a source of water under pressure;

(C) pressing said stopper against said opening; and

(D) opening said valve, whereby said pressurized water flows through said line.

20. (Original) A method according to Claim 19 wherein said line is a thru-hull, drain, discharge line, or cooling line for an engine, air conditioning, refrigeration, or water generation system on a water-going vessel.

21. (New) A method of clearing a water line using a kit according to Claim 2, where said line connects a thru-hull to a sea strainer, the inside of which is accessible from its top, comprising

(A) connecting said first end of said rigid conduit to a source of water under pressure;

(B) inserting said second end of said rigid conduit into said flexible tube;

(C) inserting one end of said rigid L-shaped tube into the other end of said flexible tube;

(D) inserting the other end of said rigid L-shaped tube into a stopper that can plug the opening of said line inside of said sea strainer;

(E) inserting said rigid L-shaped tube into said sea strainer;

(F) pressing said stopper against said opening; and

(G) opening said valve, whereby said pressurized water flows through said line.

22. (New) A method of unclogging a drain using a kit according to Claim 15 comprising

(A) inserting said second end of said rigid conduit into the aperture on the larger diameter side of said large elastomeric tapered stopper;

(B) connecting said first end of said rigid conduit to a source of water under pressure;

(C) pressing said larger diameter side of said large elastomeric stopper against said drain; and

(D) opening said valve, whereby said pressurized water flows through said line.